GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2784
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2015
Bunker Convention
Arunmozhithevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to join the International Convention on Civil Lia bility for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001 (Bunker Convention) of the International Maritime Organization;
(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;
(c) whether the Government also proposes to take necessary measures to safeguard the people working on ships; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):Yes Madam, the Government on 10.6.2015 has approved the proposal for joining the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001 (Bunker Convention) of the International Maritime Organisation. This Convention ensures that adequate, prompt, and effective compensation is available from the insurers directly to the persons who suffer damage caused by spills of bunker fuel in ships.
(c)&(d):The Government has taken necessary measures to safeguard the interests of persons working on ships by amending the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and implementing the provisions of Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006 of International Labour Organisation in India. MLC 2006 is considered as the "Bill of Rights" for the seafarers across the world. It provides for international standards for the living and working conditions of seafarers, including their food, accommodation, medical care, repatriation, social security, recruitment, etc.

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